

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A loudspeaker diaphragm having an acoustic region, the loudspeaker diaphragm comprising:
 - a conical region having an inner and outer surface,
 - a cylindrical region radially inward of the ~~first~~conical region, the cylindrical region having an inner and outer surface,
 - a coating formed on at least one surface of the conical region and the cylindrical region;
 - where the coating tapers in the conical region, and where the coating is a uniform thickness in the cylindrical region.
2. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 1 where the coating comprises a continuous layer.
3. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 2 where the diaphragm is at least partially formed of aluminum, titanium, magnesium, an alloy of aluminum, titanium, magnesium, or combinations thereof.
4. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 3 where the coating is formed of a carbide, boride, nitride, or oxide.
5. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 4 where the coating has a thickness of from about 0.1 microns to about 8 microns in the cylindrical region and a thickness from about 2 microns to about 100 microns in the conical region.
6. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 4 where the coating is an anodically formed oxide layer.

7. Cancelled.

8. Cancelled.

9. (Currently amended) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 8~~1~~ where the first conical region comprises at least a portion of the acoustic region of the diaphragm.

10. Cancelled.

11. Cancelled.

12. Cancelled.

13. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 1 where at least portions of both the inner and outer surfaces of the conical region are coated.

14. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 13 where at least portions of both the inner and outer surfaces of the cylindrical region are coated.

15. (Previously presented) A loudspeaker diaphragm comprising:
a conical region,
a cylindrical region,
a transition region between the conical region and the cylindrical region, and
a continuous coating formed on at least one major surface of the conical region, the cylindrical region, and the transition region, where the coating in at least the transition region is tapered.

16. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 15 where at least a portion of the coating in the conical region is tapered.

17. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 16 where the coating in the cylindrical region is of substantially uniform thickness.

18. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 16 where the coating in the cylindrical region is tapered.

19. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 18 where the coating tapers from a maximum value in the conical region to a minimum value in the cylindrical region.

20. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 15 where a one portion of the coating in the conical region is tapered and another portion of the coating is of substantially uniform thickness.

21. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 20 where the portion of the coating of substantially uniform thickness is radially outward of the tapered portion.

22. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 15 where the diaphragm is at least partially formed of aluminum, titanium, magnesium, an alloy of aluminum, titanium, magnesium, or combinations thereof.

23. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 22 where the coating is formed of a carbide, boride, nitride, or oxide.

24. (Previously presented) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 15 where the coating has a thickness from about 0.1 microns to about 8 microns in the cylindrical region and a thickness from about 2 microns to about 100 microns in the conical region.

25. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 23 where the coating is an anodically formed oxide layer.

26. (Original) A loudspeaker diaphragm comprising:
a conical portion
a cylindrical portion,
and a coating formed on at least one major surface of at least the conical and cylindrical portions, where the coating tapers from a maximum value on the conical portion to a minimum value on the cylindrical portion.

27. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 26 where the coating is continuous.

28. (Currently amended) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 27 where the coating tapers from a maximum value at the periphery of the conical region to a minimum value in the cylindrical ~~region~~portion.

29. (Currently amended) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 28 where the thickness of the coating in the cylindrical portion~~region~~ is uniform.

30. (Currently amended) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 27 where the thickness of the coating in an area of the conical portion~~region~~ adjacent the periphery of the conical portion~~region~~ is uniform.

31. (Original) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 27 where the continuous coating is an anodically formed oxide layer.

32. (Currently amended) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 27 including a dome attached to a surface of the coating on the conical portion~~region~~.

33. (Currently amended) The loudspeaker diaphragm of claim 32 where the coating on conical portion~~region~~ outside the dome is of uniform thickness and the coating on the conical portion~~region~~ inward of the dome is tapered.

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34. Cancelled.

35. Cancelled.

36. Cancelled.

37. Cancelled.

38. – 106. Cancelled.